GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1983
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2008
DELAY IN RAILWAY PROJECTS
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the execution of large number of Railway projects are getting delayed due to delay in acquisition of land;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated loss suffered by the Railways;

(c) whether the Railways have taken any steps for the early completion of all the pending projects in the country including those in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. R. VELU)

(a) to (e): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1983 BY SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.12.2008 REGARDING DELAY IN RAILWAY PROJECTS.

(a) & (b): Timely availability of land is one of the issues connected with execution of projects. The land acquisition and forestry clearance (in case of forest land) take considerable time which delays the project implementation. A number of projects particularly new lines are getting affected due to delays pertaining to land acquisition. There may be other reasons also alongwith land acquisition and the cost overrun is not feasible to be assessed.

(c) to (e): Periodic meetings are conducted with the State Government and Forest officials to expedite the settlement of issues with them. In the recent past, amendment has been carried out in the Indian Railway Act, 1989 through Railway Amendment Act, 2008 in order to speedily acquire land for special railway projects. Besides, a number of steps have been taken like Public Private Partnership, cost sharing by State Government and / or declaration of Projects as National Projects to generate additional resources. With these initiatives, completion of the ongoing projects including those in Tamil Nadu will get expedited.